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SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. BRITISH MINISTER COMMENTS ON EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

ON THE EVE OF HIS DEPARTURE FOR VISITS TO NEW YORK AND WASHINGTON, BRITISH MINISTER OF STATE HATTERSLEY OF THE FOREIGN OFFICE TOLD EMBASSY LONDON:

--HE INTENDS TO MAKE CLEAR IN WASHINGTON THAT HE AND OTHER BRITISH MINISTERS FULLY SHARE THE CAUTIOUS APPROACH TOWARD OPTION III AT THE MBFR NEGOTIATIONS.

--THE WEST CAN GET GREATER CONCESSIONS OUT OF THE SOVIETS ON CBMS AT THE CSCE, BUT, IF IT COMES TO A CRUNCH, FOREIGN SECRETARY CALLAGHAN AGREES WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER THAT A SUMMIT SHOULD TAKE PLACE AGAINST A BACKGROUND OF SUCCESS NO LATER THAN THE END OF JULY.

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--OF THE EC-NINE, THE UK AND FRG ARE THE MOST PESSI-

MISTIC TOWARD PORTUGAL AND COME CLOSEST TO THE US
APPRAISAL OF THE SITUATION THERE.

--THERE WILL BE NO FOOTDRAGGING BY BRITAIN OVER FULL
PARTICIPATION IN THE EC. (SECRET) LONDON 9109 (EXDIS),
6/13.

2. FRENCH IMPRESSED WITH COSTA GOMES AND ANTUNES

ACCORDING TO A FRENCH MFA OFFICIAL, THE GOF AND SPECIFICALLY
GISCARD D'ESTAING WERE FAVORABLY IMPRESSED BY COSTA GOMES
AND ANTUNES DURING THEIR VISIT TO FRANCE JUNE 4-7. THE
OFFICIAL TOLD EMBASSY PARIS THE TWO PORTUGUESE LEADERS:

--CAME ACROSS AS SERIOUS, DETERMINED AND WELL-MOTIVATED,
WITH NO TRACE OF ADVENTURISM OR RADICALISM;

--ASCRIBED TO THEMSELVES A THIRD WORLD ROLE, BUT STRES-
SED THEIR EUROPEAN ALLEGIANCE AND SUPPORT OF A UNITED
EUROPE.

NEVERTHELESS, THE MFA OFFICIAL SAID FRANCE REMAINS REALISTIC
AND IS AWARE THE TWO PORTUGUESE FACE ENORMOUS DIFFICULTIES
IN ACHIEVING THEIR COMMENDABLE AIMS. (CONFIDENTIAL) PARIS
15324, 6/13.

3. ITALIAN ELECTIONS STRENGTHEN THE CENTER-LEFT

THE JUNE 15-16 REGIONAL AND LOCAL ELECTIONS ARE SEEN AS A
VOTE OF CONFIDENCE IN THE CENTER-LEFT COALITION THAT HAS
GOVERNED ITALY SINCE 1962 AND IN THE BALANCE OF POWER
(SOCIALIST VERSUS CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT) WITHIN THE COALITION.
EMBASSY ROME REPORTS, HOWEVER, THAT THE ELECTIONS WILL
PRODUCE A SHIFT TO THE LEFT AND THE MAIN QUESTION IS "HOW
MUCH?"

--IF THE SHIFT IS SUBSTANTIAL, THE SOCIALISTS ARE
LIKELY TO PRESS FOR A NOTABLY LARGER PIECE OF THE
ACTION WHICH COULD RESULT IN A SERIOUS GOVERNMENT
CRISIS BY THE FALL AND EARLY NATIONAL ELECTIONS, POS-
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SIBLY BY NEXT SPRING.

--TYPICALLY, HOWEVER, ITALIAN ELECTORAL CHANGE HAS PRO-
CEEDED AT A "GLACIAL PACE" AND THESE ELECTIONS MAY
PROVE NO EXCEPTION, ALLOWING THE GOVERNMENT TO GO ON
SUBSTANTIALLY AS BEFORE EXCEPT FOR INCREASED STRAINS
WITHIN THE CENTER-LEFT COALITION. (CONFIDENTIAL) ROME
8480, 6/13.

4. ASAD'S VISIT TO JORDAN: THE VIEW FROM AMMAN

COMMENTING ON THE JOINT STATEMENT ISSUED JUNE 12 AT THE END OF ASAD'S VISIT TO JORDAN, EMBASSY AMMAN OBSERVES THAT THE CREATION OF A "JOINT SUPREME COMMITTEE" REPRESENTS THE

LOWEST COMMON DENOMINATOR OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN JORDAN AND SYRIA, AND IS DELIBERATELY WEAK IN KEEPING WITH JORDANIAN INTENTIONS. ACCORDING TO THE EMBASSY:

--JORDAN IS RELUCTANT TO ESTABLISH A JOINT COMMAND WITH SYRIA, AS HAD BEEN RUMORED, BECAUSE IT BELIEVES THAT THE SYRIANS WOULD DOMINATE SUCH A RELATIONSHIP AND THAT SYRIAN TROOPS ON JORDANIAN SOIL MIGHT PROVIDE ISRAEL WITH THE EXCUSE TO USE JORDANIAN TERRITORY TO OUTFLANK SYRIA IN THE EVENT OF A CONFLICT.

--NEVERTHELESS, JORDAN IS STILL INTERESTED IN BUILDING A CLOSER POLITICAL RELATIONSHIP WITH SYRIA, BUT NOT AT THE EXPENSE OF INCREASINGLY BETTER RELATIONS WITH THE OTHER ARABS, PARTICULARLY THE EGYPTIANS. (CONFIDENTIAL) AMMAN 3908, 6/13.

5. SAUDI ARABIA: LITTLE INTEREST IN SECURITY PACT

EMBASSY JIDDA REPORTS THAT SAUDI ARABIA IS NOT LIKELY TO BE INTERESTED IN A FORMAL GULF SECURITY PACT WHICH WOULD IN EFFECT LICENSE IRAN AND IRAQ TO POACH IN AN AREA WHICH THE SAG CONSIDERS ITS OWN PRESERVE.

--SAG LEADERS HAVE CONSISTENTLY MAINTAINED THAT THERE IS NO POWER VACUUM ON THE ARAB SIDE OF THE GULF AND
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THUS NO NEED FOR AN OUTSIDE POWER TO CONCERN ITSELF WITH SECURITY THERE.

--FORMAL AGREEMENT WOULD CONSTITUTE A MAJOR DEPARTURE IN SAUDI FOREIGN POLICY IF IT WERE TO GO BEYOND A SIMPLE DECLARATION OF THE INTENTION OF THE GULF STATES TO HANDLE THEIR OWN SECURITY AFFAIRS WITHOUT OUTSIDE INTERFERENCE. (CONFIDENTIAL) JIDDA 4220 (LIMDIS), 6/12.

6. INDIA: LOW TIDE FOR THE "INDIRA WAVE"

EMBASSY NEW DELHI REPORTS THAT THE PEOPLES FRONT VICTORY IN THE GUJARAT STATE ELECTIONS CONSTITUTES A SETBACK TO THE CONGRESS PARTY AND TO MRS. GANDHI PERSONALLY. COMBINED WITH

THE ALLAHABAD COURT DECISION, THE ELECTION DEFEAT PROVIDES THE OPPOSITION WITH ONE OF THE MOST TEMPTING OPPORTUNITIES TO CHALLENGE CONGRESS SINCE INDEPENDENCE.

--THIS LATEST DEFEAT WILL LESSEN MRS. GANDHI'S HOLD ON CONGRESS POLITICS, WHICH HAS BEEN NEAR TOTAL SINCE THE "INDIRA WAVE" MAJORITIES OF 1971-72, AND COULD RESULT IN INTRAPARTY OPPOSITION TO HER STAYING IN OFFICE.

--THE OPPOSITION WILL HAVE TO MOVE RESPONSIBLY IN GUJARAT WHILE MUSTERING A UNITED FRONT OR PARTY TO CHALLENGE CONGRESS IN THE UPCOMING NATIONAL ELECTIONS.
(CONFIDENTIAL) NEW DELHI 7817, 6/13.

7. MEXICO: ECHEVERRIA AGAINST JOINING OPEC

IN A CONVERSATION WITH AMBASSADOR JOVA AND DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY LUERS, PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA STATED THAT DESPITE PRESSURE FROM VARIOUS QUARTERS CULMINATING IN THE SHAH'S RECENT VISIT, MEXICO DOES NOT CONTEMPLATE JOINING OPEC. ECHEVERRIA DOES NOT, HOWEVER, RULE OUT SEEKING MEMBERSHIP AT SOME FUTURE TIME SHOULD MEXICO'S EXPORT CAPACITY INCREASE.
(CONFIDENTIAL) MEXICO 5154, 6/13.
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